

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460



EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE OFFICE  
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

October 30, 2019

**Return Receipt Requested**

Certified Mail#: 7015 3010 0001 1267 1760

**In Reply Refer to:**

EPA File No: 01U-20-R3

Steven Rosenbaum  
Chief  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Civil Rights Division  
Special Litigation Section  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20530

**Re: Referral of Administrative Complaint**

Dear Mr. Rosenbaum:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), External Civil Rights Compliance Office (ECRCO) is referring a complaint received October 29, 2019 from Complainant (b)(6) Privacy, (b)(7)(C) ECR. (b)(6) Privacy, (b)(7)(C) ECR a prisoner incarcerated at the William G. McConnell Unit under the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Correctional Institutions Division. (b)(6) Privacy, (b)(7)(C) ECR alleges that the hazardous and unhealthy living conditions in the prison is jeopardize their lives and well-being. ECRCO cannot accept his complaint for investigation, because the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Correctional Institutions Division is not a recipient of EPA financial assistance. As this complaint does not fall within the ECRCO's jurisdiction, ECRCO must reject the complaint and close it as the date of this letter.

As the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) may have jurisdiction over the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Correctional Institutions Division, ECRCO is referring this complaint to your office for appropriate action. We have notified (b)(6) Privacy, (b)(7)(C) ECR that his complaint is being forwarded to DOJ and provided your contact information. A copy of our rejection letter as well as (b)(6) Privacy, (b)(7)(C) ECR original complaint are enclosed.

If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact Dale Rhines, Deputy Director, at (202) 564-4174, by e-mail at [rhines.dale@epa.gov](mailto:rhines.dale@epa.gov) or by mail at U.S. EPA External Civil Rights Compliance Office, (Mail Code 2310A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20460.

Sincerely,

Lilian S. Dorka  
Director  
External Civil Rights Compliance Office  
Office of General Counsel

Enclosures

cc: Angelia Talbert-Duarte  
Deputy Associate General Counsel  
Civil Rights & Finance Law Office

David Gray  
Deputy Regional Administrator  
Deputy Civil Rights Official  
EPA Region 6

Patricia Welton  
Regional Counsel  
EPA Region 6